

April 27, 1977

SENATOR DWORAK: No, Senator Merz, they do not.

SENATOR MERZ: This will allow Aksarben and all of them, if they will approve of this, anywhere in the state, then?

SENATOR DWORAK: It will allow...it includes everybody but Aksarben, number one. Number two, it puts people within the county the option to vote whether they desire this or not.

SENATOR MERZ: In other words, though, if Douglas County would vote on it, they could have it then, too, couldn't they?

SENATOR DWORAK: Not under the terms of this bill because the population lid is 350,000. Aksarben asked not to be included in the bill. The State Fairgrounds, the State Fair Board has asked to be included, so we are breaking it off at that limitation by the request of those people.

SENATOR MERZ: It will be a little discriminatory then, won't it?

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Merz, we now allow Sunday racing in counties up to population of 20,000. This would raise it up to 300,000 with the option of the local county. It is no more discriminatory than the bill, the way the law now reads.

SENATOR MERZ: How many churches have you got that will sponsor or approve of your bill? Do you have any churches okaying it?

SENATOR DWORAK: I have had several ministers comment on it rather strongly, pro and con.

SENATOR MERZ: I...is there anybody...

SENATOR DWORAK: I think, Senator Merz, that your questions are very good and I think that these are the kind of answers that we are going to seek in a public hearing and that is why I would ask you for the support of your vote to get the answers to these questions.

SENATOR MERZ: I think if we start this, are you sure this won't open the door for these greyhound races and such? Maybe, it won't be another five years and we will need some more tax money and we might even go to bull fights like they do in Mexico.

SENATOR DWORAK: Senator Merz, there is nothing in this bill that would open the door to greyhound race or any other kind of race.

PRESIDENT: I hate to say this, but you two only have one minute left. We are enjoying it.

SENATOR MERZ: I will give somebody else a pass at it, thank you.

PRESIDENT: Oh, don't stop now. Senator Murphy, could you keep this thing going.

SENATOR MURPHY: Not really, but I do feel that I should